

Mid - Florida Atari Computer Club Bulletin

July, 1994

Vol. 11, No. 7

This is the monthly bulletin of the Mid-Florida Atari Computer Club. In it are articles written or submitted by members who feel they are of interest to all users of Atari computers.

You may wish to join a computer club to share the beneficial aspects of having others around you who have similar machines, like interests, and a desire to share what they know with others. A users group can help you understand things about your computer that they have already discovered.

Our membership, at \$12.00 per year, entitles you to the newsletter, access to the disk libraries, and club meetings where all the fun and education happen on a monthly basis.

We meet in the Orlando Library building downtown Orlando, 101 E Central Blvd. At 1:30PM on the second Sunday of each month. Feel free to join us there next month to learn more about the wonderful world of computers, and Atari computers in particular.

For Newsletter Exchange

M.F.A.C.C.
C/O Bob Smith
3729 Yosemite Dr.
Orlando, FL 32818

M.F.A.C.C. Affiliated BBS Listing:

Top Gun	☎ 381-5403
Starbase 1	☎ 381-2610
Inner Core	☎ 294-5183

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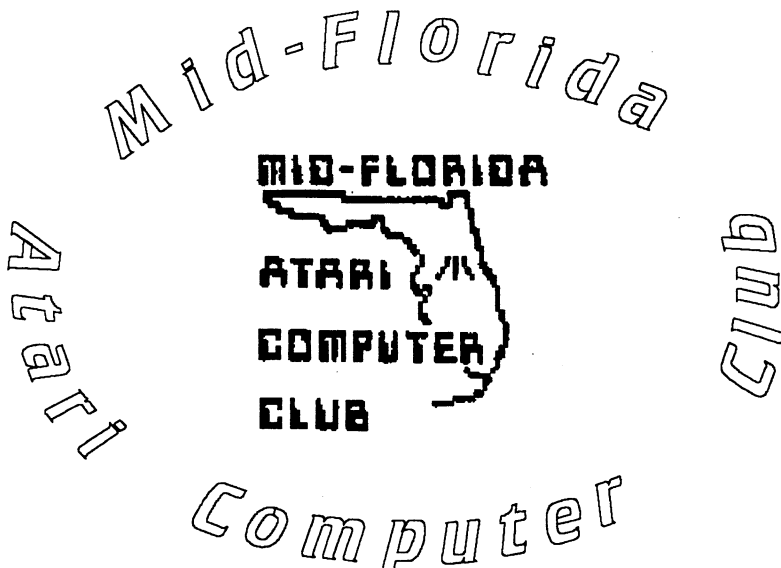
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From The President

What is a Club?

The Random House Dictionary defines the word Club as follows:

1. a heavy stick, suitable for use a weapon;
2. a stick or bat used in various games, such as golf;
3. a group of persons organized for a social, literary, or other purpose;
4. to unite or join together.

Well, the Mid-Florida Atari Computer Club fits at least two of those definitions and the operative words are "social, unite and join together." It seems that we have possibly lost sight of that and there are some people who feel that non-support of the Club is ok, as long as they can use it to gain whatever it is they want.

This message is a different one, (some would say an extremely different) message than I ordinarily write. This one is about people who would come to the Club to see a demo done this month by a good and valid member, who has told me directly, that he won't be renewing, doesn't have time to come on sundays, because he has another meeting that conflicts with our time, is going or has already gone IBM, he thinks his Atari is not supported and then goes on my BBS and others and says he will be coming to the meeting to see the demo. WELL, I have publicly told that person in several messages on my BBS and others, not to come, to stay away and that if he does come he will be asked to leave.

I am tired of our Club being used by those who think they can come, be entertained, get a Newsletter, maybe sell some stuff BUT not support the Club in anyway, none the least is paying the dues. Our dues are so small and the return on what they get far exceeds the amount. I am also tired of being called names, being derided and generally having to plead, cajol, beg, twist arms and more, just to get things done. This is GARBAGE. Now, don't misunderstand me, I will continue to voluntarily do all that I have just mentioned, but I



am also no longer willing to see the Club misused by these selfish do nothings, who don't think enough of the Club to pay their renewal dues. THEY have no right to visit the Club, THEY have no right to a newsletter, THEY have no right to any member privileges, including but not limited to access to any Club Sig on any sponsoring BBS. I am going to supply an updated membership list to all of the SYSOPS involved and ask that they remove the access of non-renewed members from the MFACC message and file sigs.

We have members that come from out of town to our meetings and why should they have to pay for something that non-renewed members try and in some cases successfully, get for nothing. **THAT WILL STOP!!! NO MORE FREEBEES FOR THE NON-RENEWED!!!** This does not change the fact that anyone who is not a member and is new can come and visit and share our hospitality and fellowship. **WE NEED MEMBERS, not FREELOADERS!!!**

I appologize to all, but the person that I had this discussion with will remain unnamed here, but if he shows up, you will all know who I am talking about, because I will publicly ask him to leave. Hopefully, next month I can regain my sense of humor. I am just sick of being used by the YAHOOOS who want everything for nothing.

Minutes Of The M.F.A.C.C. General Meeting

June 1994

12 June 1994 13:42

First order of meeting opening: Have you renewed? Only persons who have renewed can vote....

After MUCH grumbling from those present about checks that have not been deposited for dues, Bill Baker stands and makes a solemn vow to open a Great Western account. Everyone agrees that having checks floating and not cashed for several months can play havoc with the monthly balance.

Our 8-bit librarian gives a short, very short, report on the status of new files.

A thank you note from Rick Sava the ST librarian is read aloud. The club sent flowers and prayers to he and his wife at the loss of their son.

New members and visitors are welcomed by all.

It is announced that our own John Morrison local ATARI dealer supreme will have his own sig on

the Inner Core Bbs. And as further note the Atari Attic Bbs is rising from the closet to once again be of service to club members one and all.

With that concluded the meeting is recessed at 14:20 to pay dues and vote. After the break it is announced the the winners are: Bob Smith president; John Baker Vice President; Bill Baker Treasurer; Robert Raymond Secretary. CONGRATULATIONS to the new staff of the MFACC!!!!

Carey Sparks blesses us with a fine Midi demo.

As a closing note I want to thank every one who through the years have helped me in my efforts to serve this club. I do plan to attend meetings from time to time, but need to take a break and finish other projects in my life. This also will be my last bulletin that I will work on with a last minute dead line. Please pull together and help the new leaders to move forward with the club and ATARI.

Some phone numbers you will
need to communicate with our club:



President:
Bob Smith ☎ 299-5374

Vice-President:
John Baker ☎ 823-9705

Treasurer:
Bill Baker ☎ 277-3438

Secretary:
Gail Kindstrom ☎ 293-3063

Librarians:
8-Bit:
Arthur Averett 290-2096

ST:
Rick Sava ☎ 574-6033

Publicity:
Jim Porter ☎ 695-1467

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Treasurer's Report

June, 1994

Opening balance of	584.52
Debit	00.00
Closing balance	584.52

Sun Bank balance only...

GREAT WESTERN BALANCE?

Any bodies guess



Birthdays for July

Art Averett Joe Turner
Ron Bell
Jim Porter

Welcomed as new members.

Carey Sparks Mike Ivanic

New officers for year 94-95

Pres	Bob Smith
Vic. Pres.	John Baker
Tres.	Bill Baker
Sec.	Robert Raymond

COMING EVENTS

Rails Tycoon will be the demo.

August will have special surprise demos.

FOR SALE

Mono Monitor for 8-bit \$25

Printer Interface \$10

Many more items, see Gail or call 407-293-3063

3 single density drives complete \$10 each
Large selection of new & used software, games
utilities etc. Start mags with disks \$1 each.
SM124 St monochrome monitor \$75
See Bob Smith or call 299-5374

PD_QUICKVIEW 2 /

[*]Yours For The Asking

By Fred H. Koch
[F.KOCH]

Program Name : QSORT
Filename : QSORT10.LZH
Library Area : 2
Program Number : 32062
File Size : 7040
Program Type : Text Sorter
Author : Craig Harvey
Version Reviewed: 1.0
File Type : Shareware, \$10.00

Note: This review is the second in a series of reviews on ASCII sorting programs.

[*] [*] [*]

WHAT IT IS QSORT v1.0 sorts ASCII lines, up to 65535 lines, up to 65535 columns, up to 3 sort key fields, each ascending or descending.

FROM THE AUTHOR QSORT sorts lines. It uses a rather fast Quicksort algorithm (MUCH faster than a simple bubble sort). It handles files up to whatever will fit in your RAM while leaving room for it to play around with line pointers. It can handle up to 65535 lines, with up to 65535 columns in each line. It lets you pick up to 3 key sort fields, each one ascending or descending. It also lets you choose a range of lines to sort out of the whole file.

To help you pick the columns to use as sort keys, it displays an index line of digits followed by the first line of the sort range.

[*] [*] [*]

PD_Q RATING
""""""""""

(^)
\"=====/"\"=====/"~~\"
\"\\. THREE LAMPS ./\"
\"\\. () ./\" (1-5)

DOCUMENTATION FAIR
""""""""""

PD_Q COMMENTS QSORT is very fast. The only GEM part of QSORT

is the file selector, but that does not detract from the program's usefulness.

QSORT prompts for each entry necessary for it to sort a file. A default value is provided so the options can be gotten through quickly if you use the default values which will fit most sort situations. Changing a value takes a simple key press and the range of values is provided when there is a restriction on the range.

The ability to choose the column to sort on and allowing three different sort fields makes QSORT very flexible. It ignores letter case so you don't end up with a list of all capital letters first.

QSORT writes the sorted file to a selected destination file. A warning is provided if you choose the source file as the destination file, but only after entering all other parameters for the sort, and then the program aborts if you choose not to overwrite instead of allowing entry of an alternate file name. This is definitely better than over writing the file with no warning, but it would be nice not to have to start over.

The sort can have a start and end line specified allowing the destination file contain a subset of the original file, adding additional flexibility.

The documentation just lists program capabilities and requires some experimentation to determine the results you will get from the program. Simple sorts require no instruction at all, more complex sorts using multiple fields are not discussed so you must experiment to see how this works.

QSORT aborted when I entered a space in place of a value in a requested field. With adequate error trapping the program would have been rated FOUR LAMPS.

Overall QSORT provides a fast single line, multiple field sort capability. A little experimentation is required to get the full capabilities from this program, but it is a good addition to any utility library.

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[EOA]
[FUN]////////////////////////////////////////
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////////////////////////////////////////
Online Puzzle Fun
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "
By Scott R. Garrigus
[S.GARRIGUS]
```

>>> SEARCH ME! <<<

Contributed By Bob Smith

It has been awhile since we had a brain-teaser of a puzzle. For those of you that have not played this type of puzzle before, the idea is to find the words in the puzzle that are shown below it. These words could be vertical, horizontal, diagonal, backward, etc. A hint, circle the word when you find it, that way you won't be going the same area twice.

You will find the answers elsewhere in this newsletter. Oh yes, one more thing, I am not responsible for headaches or crossed eyes. Have fun.

```
C L Z A T W I K G S A X S Z I S S Q G C C Q
A D Q C H J W Q I I B X I A Q L A U T R I V
T P I Z O H G F C I J B P A L A D D I N Y F
E R D P Q U Y G L O J Q V C F Z O S K I O E
G O D K Q T Y T E H N G E L B A T D N U O R
O F B Y N F W U S N W N G K A A S A C P C W
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I L S N Q F T N C W A E Z C E E J S N S W P
E E K C A B D E E F L M O S T W D F D N B G
S S D A C Q P N L I L A U G M I E P A S W W
T Z W H Q M F F O L L I C H R R O V L Z U U
P O F L X E W G F I U L X O E A I N L E N B
G X P V U F K U Z A S B K N M G P U S X H S
F B L I B R A R I E S S C H A M R H T O U N
J B Y J C V P C A W R E U T R K U O Y E P F
Q T T W C S J X E V L I I C E N L N I M Z N
E P M D Y U Q A A V O O H R S O K N I U P O
K G T Q J A F W T N N M S D W I E M E T L E
V X B Y V C J L O C O T O R P G D H T Z Y T
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ALADDIN
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DISCUSSION
GENIEOGRAPHY
LIBRARIES
PROFILES
TOPICS

BULLETIN
CONFERENCE
FEEDBACK
GENIEUS
LURKERS
PROTOCOL
USERS

CATEGORIES
CONNECTIONS
GEMAIL
HELPDESK
NAVIGATION
ROUNDTABLE
VIRTUAL

Speedo GDOS v5.0

The next generation

(Product Upgrade Announcement)

SpeedoGDOS version 5.0 is the product of a close collaboration between Atari Corporation and COMPO Software Corp. The result is an essential tool that will simply revolutionize the way you use your computer, and the materials you create.

SpeedoGDOS 5.0 supports Bitstream Speedo, PostScript Type 1, and TrueType fonts. Simultaneously, transparently.

Bitstream Speedo is a scalable font format that has become the standard on Atari computers. PostScript Type 1 and TrueType are the standard formats on other computer systems. All three formats support scaling fonts to any size, with font hinting and kerning for the best possible display and print quality.

With tens of thousands of PostScript Type 1 and TrueType fonts available, a nearly limitless variety - and quantity - of high quality fonts is now available to you. Virtually any type design, style, or character set is easily obtainable. Foreign language fonts, symbol and notation fonts, exotic styles...

SpeedoGDOS 5.0 also reaches new heights in cross-platform compatibility - with the same font formats used on Ataris, PCs, Macs, and other computer systems, transferring data between computers is easier than ever before.

SpeedoGDOS 5.0 includes printer drivers for most popular printers, and an assortment of brand new drivers, including color drivers for color printers, and drivers for LaserJet 4 and compatible printers at 300 and 600 dpi.

manual and is available in two versions. They vary only in the number of typefaces included.

SpeedoGDOS 5.0 (Complete) includes twenty two Bitstream typefaces and is available for \$79.95. It can be purchased from any Atari computer dealer or direct from COMPO Software.

The SpeedoGDOS 5.0 Upgrade includes eight Bitstream typefaces and is available to users of SpeedoGDOS 4.x for \$50.00.

Upgrading to SpeedoGDOS 5.0

Users of SpeedoGDOS 4.x may purchase the SpeedoGDOS 5.0 upgrade from COMPO Software. Proof of SpeedoGDOS 4.x ownership is required.

Please forward, with your order, one of the following:

- 1) One of your SpeedoGDOS master disks, or a photocopy of a master disk.
- 2) The cover page from your SpeedoGDOS manual, or a photocopy of the cover page.

Pages or photocopies may be faxed to COMPO Software if you wish to order SpeedoGDOS 5.0 by telephone, fax, or email.

If you send an original SpeedoGDOS 4.x master disk, it will be returned with your order.

Please include \$3.00 for shipping. California residents please add 8.25% sales tax.

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Fax: 415-355-0869
GEnie: COMPO

Speedo is a trademark of Bitstream, Inc. PostScript is a trademark of Adobe Systems Incorporated. SpeedoGDOS is a trademark of Atari Corporation. LaserJet is a trademark of Hewlett-Packard Company.

SpeedoGDOS 5.0 includes a new

PUZZLE ANSWERS

C +
 A + + + + + + + + + + + + + + L A U T R I V
 T P + + + + + + C + + + + A L A D D I N + +
 E R + + + + + G + O + + + + + + + + + + + +
 G O + + + + + E + N + E L B A T D N U O R
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 R I + + + I + + + + I G E + S R + + + O + +
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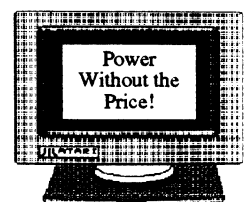
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DEALER VIEWPOINT

By Sheldon Winick

I must say that despite the obvious online grumblings about Atari's recent lack of visible support for the computer side of their business, they have during the past several months done a good job of maintaining stock and filling equipment orders. The Falcons and TT030's have been readily available along with necessary peripherals such as RAM boards, hard drive mounting kits, TTM195 large screen monitors, etc. It has felt good to have product actually available and in stock once again in a consistent manner, and seeing orders getting filled promptly without the need to see long lists of backorders on our Atari invoices.

Of course, the way Atari produces product, with infrequent and highly erratic equipment runs, this current situation will not last forever. But for the time being, there is apparently equipment in stock in the warehouse that is readily available to authorized dealers and distributors.

Atari's current efforts continue to be primarily focused on the Jaguar entertainment system, however. The Jaguar has already passed its first half-year mark since its introduction, and its technological leap over the competition appears assured for at least the remainder of this year. Software titles, however, are trickling out for the Jaguar at an incredibly slow and irritating rate of less than one per month on average. Most every title on the long list of 'upcoming releases' that was announced months ago now appears to have been delayed.

Now is the time for Atari to really secure their place in the entertainment market with the Jaguar, before the major competition joins them on the 64-bit playing field. Of course, Atari's track record for squandering technological leadership is well known. They did the same thing with the original Atari ST models in 1985, and again with Portfolio, the STacy, the TT030 and the Lynx. They have consistently promised that 'this time will be different' with each new technological leap. We heard the same promise six months ago with the release of the Jaguar. So far..... well, we're still waiting.

I personally can't understand why Atari's management cannot understand the simple notion of marketing an entire product line though. They typically get so engrossed with whatever new product they produce that they seem to totally forget everything that came before it, is still available for sale, and quite viable in the market place if properly merchandised and supported.

On the computer side, the Falcon030 and TT030 are both very capable performers for home and business/professional users. Periodic upgrading and system enhancements could easily make both systems

viable for the next several years. But Atari, unfortunately, rarely seems interested in such longterm support of its product lineup. That type of support typically terminates with the introduction of their next technological marvel. This time it is the Jaguar. I can't help but wonder how long this current infatuation will last before Atari moves on to something new once again.

Speaking of moving on, I have to take a moment to wish the best to Bob Brodie, Atari's Director of Communications, who is leaving Atari this week. I believe that Bob has been the voice of Atari for longer than anyone else who ever held that position, and has earned the respect of most everyone involved with the Atari platform. He has been the source of information about Atari and has always been forthcoming and eager to assist Atarians with information and support. Bob has been the center of attention at Atari shows throughout the country, and his activity here on GENie has always been appreciated. Bob will surely be missed, but I'm sure we all wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors and welcome him back among the racks of us 'end-users'.

A less visible Atari figure, but one that has been extremely helpful to Atari's service dealers has also moved on. Jim Jackson has held the position of Atari's Manager of Quality Assurance and has been extremely helpful in resolving service problems. He has worked hard to try to re-establish an effective service program and support system for Atari's service dealerships. His efforts met with mixed results, however, as the latest service program adopted by Atari's top management is now one of the worst in the industry. I would like to take this time to thank Jim for his efforts and assistance as well as wish him the best of luck in his own future endeavors. He, like Bob, will definitely be missed.

Many longterm Atarians have also been moving on lately as their aging equipment becomes more technologically arthritic. Many have been moving up to the newer Atari Falcon030 or TT030 systems. Several of my business and professional customers have also been adding additional TT030 workstations as their business needs have grown. Several customers have also chosen to move on to other computer platforms in order to run necessary business software that is not available for the Atari.

The computer is a tool for any business, and a business must buy the tools needed for it to survive and flourish. When an existing tool can no longer perform the necessary tasks, it must be discarded and replaced with a new one. Technology doesn't stand still for very long in the computer marketplace, so we're forever seeing our customers 'moving on' in one way or another.

The huge quantity of software and hardware offerings on the IBM-compatible platform have proven to be too enticing for many to resist.

There are several software offerings that I would love to have myself that are not available for the Atari. That enticement can sometimes be hard to resist, but whenever I get the misfortune of helping a customer with an IBM-compatible system, I quickly get over the urge. The aggravation level necessary to live with such a technologically inferior hardware architecture is just too high a price to pay. The wasted time and aggravation dealing with an operating system that requires constant rewriting of CMOS files, CONFIG.SYS files and AUTOEXEC.BAT files whenever changing hardware or software configurations makes no sense to me.

Windows' graphic 'menu' that displays installed icons rather than actually reading the disk directory seems like a step backward. By comparison, Atari's newer versions of TOS which allow program icons to be simply deposited right on the desktop, and easily changed and removed when desired, seems so much more logical. Plugging in a new hard drive or additional RAM and having the system recognize its there the moment the computer is turned on is something we take for granted on the Atari; ain't anything nearly as simple on an IBM-compatible. Then again, that's why most businesses wind up hiring a computer specialist/consultant to set up their IBM-compatible systems to do a particular task, and rarely make changes to the system. Bottom line is productivity; if the software needed only runs under Windows or MS-DOS, there's little choice in the matter.

Our friends up at Ditek are also moving on. If you're not familiar with Ditek, let me tell you they are the folks that developed DynaCADD -- in my opinion, one of the premier CADD programs on any desktop computer. DynaCADD was developed for the Atari platform and has always been an excellent example of just what kind of power the Atari TT030 really offers. They also offer DynaCADD-2D, virtually identical to the full 3D- version of DynaCADD but without the full 3-D capabilities. Priced at well under \$300, DynaCADD-2D is affordable for even the most casual user who can benefit from the ability to accurately create line drawings of any type on most any Atari computer. Atari's Falcon030, especially after popping in a math coprocessor (FPU), is very capable of running DynaCADD- 2D extremely efficiently.

Atari's marketing blunders have all but forced Ditek to expand their horizons to other platforms however. They are about to roll out DynaDesigner, to run under windows. DynaCADD version 3.0 is being developed primarily for that platform as well. Whether or not there will be Atari versions of these fine new software offerings is still unknown. The sad part is that such a excellent piece of software, originally developed for the Atari platform, has now moved to Windows as its primary platform. From Ditek's standpoint, it is strictly a matter of survival; I can't blame them one bit. Of course, that doesn't mean I'm not going to curse them more than a little bit if I have to start spending and wasting a lot of my time setting up DOS-boxes just to run their software.

Well, I just looked out the window and mother nature is giving us another fantastic late Spring day here in the mountains of Western North Carolina, so it looks like its time for me to move on as well and get outside for a little recreation. There's more to life than just Atari, and computers of any type for that matter, but as far as Atari is concerned, I'm certain we've not heard the last of them

quite yet.

I enjoyed watching the 'final episode' of Star Trek, the Next Generation last week. The 'final episode'..... hmmmmmm....of course, they immediately announced the 'first' TNG movie that's going to be produced. Kinda makes me wonder just what Atari has in mind for THEIR next offering, now that many have tried to imply that the Falcon might be THIER last personal computer offering. But then again, folks have been writing off Atari even before they stunned the industry with the original 520ST almost 10 years ago. Since that time they've rolled an impressive line of excellent products. If only they were half as good at actually merchandising them as they have proven to be at designing them.....

Happy (Atari) Computing.

[*][*][*]

Sheldon owns and operates Computer Studio, a full-service Atari dealership in Asheville, North Carolina. Sheldon is also a registered architect (licensed in Florida, Tennessee, North Carolina, and Colorado, as well as holding a National NCARB certificate). His current architectural drawings are, of course, prepared on his Atari TT030-based CADD system, using DynaCADD software.

(Editor's note: This article is published as an ongoing series. The opinions expressed are of the author and do not represent the opinions of the board, officers or the Mid-Florida Atari Computer Club.)

THE SMART KID'S CORNER

Announcing a new program from D.A. Brumleve!

MathArt: A Paint Program for Young Mathematicians

The emphasis in MathArt is decidedly upon art. The math angle (pun intended!) takes the form (pun intended!) of geometrical shapes which provide the basis for line designs.

MathArt simulates the "string art" studies many children of the 60's and 70's experienced as a part of geometry class. A basic grid serves as the starting point for complex shapes and designs. Points along the axes of the grid are connected to form lines. When crossing, straight lines in a design may be interpreted by the eye as curves. A surprising variety of designs is possible using the points on a single grid.

As a junior high school student, the author found string art to be a clumsy and frustrating activity. The computer does away with the awkward string and nails and substitutes editing at the click of a mouse, thus encouraging experimentation with the potential of line designs. While the line designs are attractive and interesting without further adornment, the use of vivid color can accentuate certain features and enhance the effect. A paint program is included to allow children to color their designs and save them in an onscreen art gallery. No prior understanding of geometry is required to use the program, and even the smallest of computer users will enjoy exploring the creative potential of the basic structures presented.

The program consists of a Main Screen and three activity screens: the Drawing Screen, the Painting Screen, and the Art Gallery Screen. The child creates a line design on the Drawing Screen, embellishes it with color on the Painting Screen, and displays it with other paintings on the Art Gallery Screen. Each screen offers three possible grids for line art: a four-segment cross, a three-segment cross, and a circle. Up to three line designs of each grid shape may be saved to disk for later editing. An unlimited number of paintings can be saved for repainting or for later viewing in the Art Gallery. Paintings are saved in Degas Elite format.

MathArt, like all commercial kidprgs, is accompanied by an Installation Program which allows the parent or teacher to configure the child's disk to suit his/her needs and interests. This grow-as-you-grow approach allows MathArt to appeal to children throughout a very wide age range. To make learning to use the program a snap, MathArt conforms to the user interface provided in all commercial kidprgs.

MathArt will run in ST Low on any Atari ST/STe/TT/Falcon030. Printing requires a printer which accepts an ST screen dump; nearly all printers are supported. Recommended for ages 3-11; enjoyed by all!

Shipping on or before July 1, 1994! Scheduled to be debuted at the MIST AtariFest in Indianapolis on July 23! See you there!

Retail price: US\$40.00

Your dealer will welcome your order, or you may order direct.

To order COD: Voice 217 337 1937

Fax 217 367 9084

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Also available: Kidpublisher Professional US\$40

Multiplay US\$40

Kidpainter US\$35

Super Kidgrid US\$25

A \$3 shipping charge covers all products ordered at one time. Products mailed to points within the US are shipped Priority Mail and really do tend to arrive within three days as promised by the US Postal Service. Products sent to Canada and elsewhere are shipped via US Air Mail.

KEY ISSUES

By Robert Raymond

Since joining the Atari Club several months ago, Bob has been after me to cast aside the world's physical pleasures and pursue a monkish existence writing a monthly column for the Atari Club newsletter. Owing to the fact that I respect Bob as a pillar of the Atari community, as well as the fact that he still has the negatives of those photos and has threatened to send them to the Sentinel unless I agreed to his terms, allow me to unveil my new column for MFACC; Key Issues.

Since I program for a living and play with computers entirely too much on the side, my column will be a strange mish-mash of opinions, observations, and what-not for computer subjects. Most of these articles will center around Atari Computers, but who can say what subjects might tickle my fancy in the upcoming months.

Of course, since I am forced by my profession to read professional computer magazines, I will try to stay away from the gray, dull stuff that these magazines cover. Some of these mags have such a dull format that if they were breaking the story about the earth spiralling into the sun, you would probably not finish the piece. Yes, that dull.

So that's the plan. You can let me know what you think of my views via INNER CORE, or simply punch my lights out during the meetings. Whatever.

Before closing, there is a small pet peeve that I did want to voice. I understand that the only Atari computer store in existence for hundreds of miles sees very few MFACC members regularly, if ever. If you haven't visited Morrison's Computers, you should. Not only is John a nice guy, he is also one of the few who is hanging in there well after the point that most Atari enthusiasts, dealers, and Atari Board Members have taken to the lifeboats. Some points to consider...

1) John is usually happy to let you try the software out in the store so you can see just how it plays. Try sending back software to a mail-order place with a sheepish, "Its just not me" excuse. You can even check out Jag cartridges before purchase.

2) You can order a wide range of software that mail-order houses will not touch. If he hasn't got it, he probably can within a week or so.

3) He provides us with quick turn-around repairs and excellent technical advice. If you need a fix, you can get it done QUICK and CHEAP. No screwing around with U.S. Snail, no weeks of an empty desk while you wait for someone half a continent away to service your machine. I've even had him do small fixes over my lunch break.

Right now, he has a ton of software that he is pricing to move, so you really should go by and check him out. He's out on Silver Star Road, and you can get exact directions by calling him at 295-6340.

Besides the club, this local dealer is really all you have left. If he goes, you loose big time. No more new

software, and no direct servicing. Atari might not have supported us, but it is in our own best interest to support the dealers.

(Editor's note: Robert Raymond is the new secretary of the Mid-Florida Atari Computer Club and his new column is a very welcome addition to the Newsletter. Welcome our new columnist and all-around cumudgeon.)

A 38400 BAUD MODEM BOOST

(or Using HI-Test In The Modem Tank)

By Erno Meffert

Some people using a HST modem on a atari ST wished their computer had a 38400 Baud modem port for optimal arc transmission. A 38400 baud, locked port can be created with some extra hardware.

I, the writer of this document, and drawer of the picture do not feel responsible for any damage made to your equipment while building or using this 38400 baud serial port.

The file SER38400.PI3 contains a picture file wich gives you some information on how to create a locked 38400 kbaud rs-232 serial port.

The principal is quite simple. Normally Timer D creates the Baudrate of the USART in the MFP. In order to give the USART an external clock we have to disable the connection between the output of timer D (pin 16) and the receiver/transmitter clock (pin 7 and 10) of the USART. The easiest way to to that is to make a little scratch on the platine.

At this point we have no clock for our usart. To get a new clock signal we take a clock signal of 2.4576 Mhz (pin 18 MFP) and divide it by 4 To do this, we use a 4040. The result on pin 7 of the 4040 (614400HZ) will be our new USART RC/SC. The frequency is this high because the USART will divide it by 16. The result is a serial port of 38400 KBaud.

I hope this explanation will give you enough information to create such a baudrate (if you need it)!!

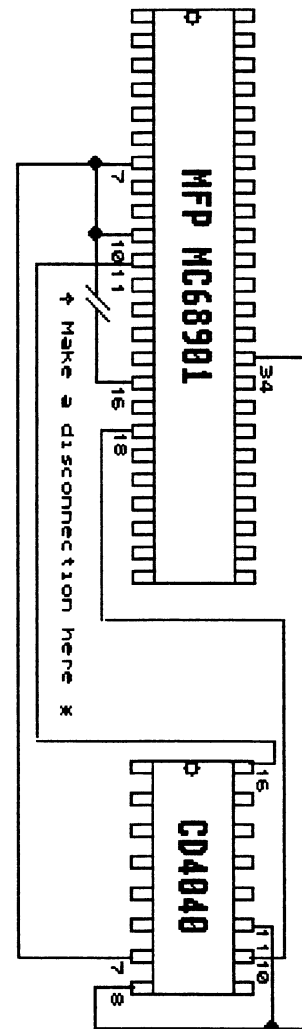
For any problems or information you can contact:

postbus 2174

6802 CD Arnhem
Holland

Or using email: QuickBBS ST Arnhem
31-(0)85-644262
Fidonode 2:281/801

(Editor's note: This hardware modification comes all the way from Holland. The staff of this newsletter, officers and the Mid-Florida Atari Computer Club makes no representation of the success of this modification and will not be responsible for any damage that may occur, as we have no firsthand knowledge of this modification. If any member does try it and has success we would welcome a report to be published.



>>> JAGUAR TALK <<<
 ~ Atari Video Game News ~

CatNip (Jaguar news bits from Don Thomas)

It is not thought that anyone should have any problems finding the Atari Jaguar 64-bit video entertainment system available near them for purchase. Just the same, we at Atari Corporation certainly would not want that to be an excuse not to get one.

This list includes an abridged list of Atari Jaguar resellers across the country. Many dealers buy through distributors and Atari Corporation does not service them directly. Consequently, a comprehensive list of dealers is difficult to assemble. Please feel free to contact Don Thomas at Atari if you know of another fine reseller in your area that should be added to the list.

This list does not include a verbose listing of chain store locations. The Jaguar is available for demonstration and sale at Toys R Us, Good Guys, Babbages, Nobody Beats The Wiz and many other national or regional chain store locations. Look for the Jaguar to rent at select BlockBuster locations too. If you are a store manager or store owner who is not included on this list, please fax your request to be included to: 408/745-2088.

Many of the locations below are delighted to fulfill mail and phone orders. Many also accept preorders to assure express delivery when new titles are released. Please note that this is NOT an "official" list. It is being maintained informally for the benefit of Jaguar enthusiasts. Independent dealers are solely responsible for delivery and pricing advertised and/or promised by them.

| | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|----|--------------|
| FAR NORTH COMPUTERS/ARARI | FAIRBANKS | AK | 907-456-3700 |
| FAR COMPUTERS | BIRMINGHAM | AL | 205-785-4192 |
| MIDCITIES COMP SOFT | BELLFLOWER | CA | 213-867-0626 |
| THE COMPUTER NETWORK | GLENDALE | CA | 818-500-3900 |
| COMPUTER PLUS | CHULA VISTA | CA | 619-691-7844 |
| DEMAND SYSTEMS | CARMARILLO | CA | 805-389-0059 |
| COMPUTER ROCK | SAN FRANCISCO | CA | 415-751-8573 |
| STUDIO RESOURCE CENTER | EL CERRITO | CA | 510-559-8618 |
| LEO'S AUDIO | OAKLAND | CA | 510-653-1000 |
| ATY COMPUTER | OAKLAND | CA | 510-482-3775 |
| TEDDY BEAR TOYS | APTOS | CA | 408-688-6538 |
| B & C COMPUTERVERSIONS | SANTA CLARA | CA | 408-749-1003 |
| SAN JOSE STORE | SAN JOSE | CA | 408-249-0455 |
| COMPUTERTIME | CITRUS HEIGHTS | CA | 916-969-4111 |
| STEVES SOFTWARE SALES | WOODLAND | CA | 916-661-3328 |
| COTTONWOOD COMPUTERS | COTTONWOOD | CA | 916-347-0416 |
| HORIZON COMPUTERS | DENVER | CO | 303-777-8080 |
| RUN PC | FORT COLLINS | CO | 303-356-2344 |
| MORRISON COMPUTERS | ORLANDO | FL | 407-649-8733 |
| PALM BEACH MUSIC | NORTH PALM BEACH | FL | 407-842-7451 |
| A-ONLINE | TAMPA | FL | 813-237-1656 |
| NEUTRONICS | HONOLULU | HI | 808-423-0122 |
| IMPACT MARKETING | HONOLULU | HI | 808-833-1893 |
| DATA BASE | DYERSVILLE | IA | 319-875-8711 |
| COMPU-SELLER WEST | SAINT CHARLES | IL | 708-513-5220 |
| COMPUTER CORNER | FT WAYNE | IN | 219-493-6505 |
| COMPUTER ZONE | N. ATTLEBORO | MA | 508-699-0430 |
| TOAD COMPUTERS | SEVERNA PARK | MD | 301-544-6944 |
| SYSTEMS FOR TOMORROW | INDEPENDENCE | MD | 816-252-4738 |
| POWER COMPUTERS | KLINTON TOWNSHIP | MI | 313-445-2983 |
| SOFTHOUSE COMPUTER CENTER | GARDEN CITY | MI | 313-422-6760 |
| TWIN CITIES (339) | ROSEVILLE | MN | 612-631-9420 |
| COMPUTER STUDIO | ASHEVILLE | NC | 704-251-0201 |
| HOBBYTOWN USA | LINCOLN | NE | 402-465-7500 |
| SOFTWARE SPECTRUM | NORTH PLAINFIELD | NJ | 201-561-8777 |
| THE SOFTWARE-HOUSE | FAIRPORT | NY | 716-223-7658 |
| WISER ELECTRONICS | LAS VEGAS | NV | 702-385-7782 |
| ANTHILL COMPUTING | MT VERNON | OH | 614-393-1524 |
| THE COMPUTER SHOPP | WADSWORTH | OH | 216-336-2215 |
| BACK STAGE PASS STUDIOS | WEST CARROLLTON | OH | 513-847-8364 |

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|--------------------------|---------------------|----|--------------|
| SHELTON COMPUTERS | TULSA | OK | 918-446-5941 |
| IB COMPUTERS | BEAVERTON | OR | 503-297-8425 |
| VISION COMPUTERS | EUGENE | OR | 503-485-1424 |
| COMPUTER GARDEN | EDWARDSVILLE | PA | 717-288-6140 |
| MICRO-COMPUTER DEPOT | SUMTER | SC | 803-775-5165 |
| COMPUTER DISCOVERIES | DALLAS | TX | 214-484-9104 |
| BITS 'N BYTES COMPUTERS | ST GEORGE | UT | 801-628-5755 |
| XANTH | BELLEVUE | WA | 206-643-9697 |
| RALEIGH COMPUTERS | LODI | WI | 901-377-9068 |
| ELDEN COMPUTERS | CHARLESTON | WV | 304-344-2335 |
| CHAING COMPUTER SERVICES | ONTARIO, CANADA | | 613-258-1497 |
| FALCON SYSTEMS | NEW W.MINISTER, BC | | 604-522-2915 |
| EAGLE SYSTEMS | KELOWNA, BC V1X 6A1 | | 604-763-4032 |

(AEO.MAG, CAT26, TOP13, MSG:181/M475)

<<<<< Atari has had some real Cool bumper stickers made up. They are black and feature the yellow Jaguar eyes as well as the blood-red Jaguar logo. I understand these are being shipped to the upcoming C.E.S. show, but I have managed to, well let's say, "put some aside for my friends" <g>.

So here's another freebie for everyone... (YEA!)

Send me a self-addressed and pre-stamped envelope and I'll put one of these "hot-off-the-press" three-color eye-poppers in it right back to you. The dimensions are 3"x12" so keep that in mind. If you really do not want a gentle fold in it, send an envelope at least 12 inches long and make sure there's cardboard in it. If you are not sure how long 12 inches is, try a ruler.

Send to: Don's Really Hot Jaguar Bumper Sticker Freebie

Atari Corporation
P.O. Box 61657
Sunnyvale, CA 94089-1657

The bumper stickers are FREE as long as you promise that you'll proudly display it where all your friends will see it. I recommend getting Mom and Dad's permission before slapping it on their furniture, appliances or automobiles. Maybe they'll let you tape it in the back window of the car (tape it so the logo faces out please).

I hope everyone likes these. Consider it a "THANKS" for your patience as we work our "bumpers" off getting some more software into your hot hands as fast as we can!

(AEO.MAG, CAT26, TOP2, MSG:144/M475)

[Editor's Note: The title CatNip' was taken directly from Travis' post and he is credited with coming up with that nifty title! Wish I'd have thought of it!]

NEW ATARI SOFTWARE

MajicSoft Announces Immediate Availability Of New Atari Software

MajicSoft is pleased to announce that our multi-game entertainment package for the Atari 68000 based machines is available for immediate delivery.

M.A.G.E Arcade Hits Volume I contains the following games:

Blastron

A powerhouse frenzied shoot-em-up game that allows two players to compete at the same time. Totally addictive may-hem.

Dropix

The definitive falling block game for Atari based computers. Two players compete at the same time to see who can out wit the other. Outstanding graphics and sound combine to make this game the flagship of this package.

Sleuth

The classic seek and search arcade action game. Combines unique puzzles with arcade action. Over 250 rooms to explore.

Thurg-N-Murg

An original arcade platform game which the children (and adults) will love. 50 levels of quarter crunching arcade style fun.

M.A.G.E Hits Volume I also includes exclusively enhanced versions of previously released software by Dave Munsie which includes the following:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Hopper | - Classic "Frogger" style action. |
| Kid Kong | - The definitive "Donkey Kong" game. |
| Super Dark Pearl | - Stunning puzzler with a uninqe perspective. |
| ST Invaders | - Classic "Invaders" action updated for thje 90's. |
| Evader | - A fast action shoot-em-up. |

All 10 games included in the M.A.G.E. Hits Volume I package are 100% compatabile with the complete Atari 680XX computer line up which includes the ST/STe/TT/Falcon computers.

M.A.G.E. Hits Volume I is shipping now to fine Atari Dealers Everywhere.

Please take the time to inquire about the complete MajicSoft line up of fine Atari software from your local Atari dealer. Or you may contact MajicSoft directly.

MajicSoft
348 Meredith Square
Columbia, SC 29223
Phone: 803-788-8177

DEALER HOTLINE!!!!!! - FOR ATARI DEALERS ONLY!!!!

If you are an Atari re-seller please take the time to contact these fine Atari distributors about M.A.G.E. Hits Volume I and other MajicSoft products.

M.A.G.E Hits Volume I is in stock NOW at these fine distributors.

Pacific Software Supply - 800-327-0425 - Ask for Jan.
MCD Distribution - 800-845-3070 - Ask for Atari sales.
TOAD Distribution - 800-448-8623 - Ask for Jennifer.

Standing Rules of the MFACC

1. No child (under 16) may be present with out a parent.
2. Children must not be allowed to wander throughout the meeting place without accompanying adult. "We are here at the pleasure of our hosts, remember we must behave in an apporiate and responsible manner."
3. To sell goods at a meeting, you must either be an active, paid up, member. Or pay for add listing in the bulletin, or arrange a percentage fee with our treasurer.
4. Membership must be paid in advace of the annual elections.
5. Elected officers must be members in good standing for one year prior to their election.
6. Vistors may attend two consecutive meetings of the club, but will be asked on their second night to decide if they wish to join the group. (Third timer must be a paid up member).
7. The board may preform financial activities of a necessary nature between meetings, but may not exceed (\$100) with out bringing the matter to the membership.

These rules were voted on at the July 1993 meeting.

This is a re-printing of standing rules voted on at the JULY 1993 meeting.

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